Maura Healey, Governor
Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor
Gina Fiandaca, Secretary & CEO

massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation

February 7, 2023

Mr. Gary Moran
Acting Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection
1 Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Acting Commissioner Moran,

Pursuant to Section 7 of amended 31 CMR 7.36, Transit System Improvements, please find enclosed our responses to public comments on the 2022 Status Report on transit projects required under the revised State Implementation Plan (submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on July 19, 2022). Section 7 requires the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to file a summary of all public comments and written responses to those comments within 120 days of the public meeting also required by Section 7. A public meeting was held by DEP on September 29, 2022.

The 2022 Status Report is publicly available on the MassDOT website at www.mass.gov/service-details/state-implementation-plan-sip.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (857) 368-8865 or david.mohler@state.ma.us.

Sincerely,

David Mohler

David J. Mohler
Executive Director
MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

cc: Christine Kirby, Department of Environmental Protection

Ten Park Plaza, Suite 4160, Boston, MA 02116
Tel: 857-368-4636, TTY: 857-368-0655
www.mass.gov/massdot

State Implementation Plan – Transit Commitments
2022 Status Report
Agency Response to Public Comments

I. MassDOT Certification

II. List of Public Comments Received

III. Agency Responses to Public Comments

IV. 2022 Status Report

V. Public Comments

a. Emails and Letters

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Gary Moran
	Acting Commissioner
	Department of Environmental Protection
FROM:	David J. Mohler
	Executive Director
	MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
DATE:	February 7, 2022
RE:	310 CMR 7.36 (7)(c)

This memo is intended to fulfill the reporting requirements of 310 CMR 7.36 (7)(c), in which the Massachusetts Department of Transportation must attest that:

- MassDOT has provided complete information for all requirements of 310 CMR 7.36 (7)(a).
- MassDOT has provided complete information about any actual or known potential need and reasons for a project substitution pursuant to 310 CMR 7.36(4)(b).
- MassDOT has provided complete information on the interim offset projects implemented or proposed to be implemented pursuant to 310 CMR 7.36(4)(b) and (5)(g)4.

I certify that all the information listed above has been provided and that MassDOT has, to the best of its ability, fulfilled all public processes and reporting requirements described in 310 CMR 7.36 (7).

David J. Mohler
Executive Director
MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

Comments Received on the MassDOT 2022 Status Report (by format and date)

Written Testimony

Date	Title	First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Additional Authors

Note: MassDOT did not receive comments via written testimony on the 2022 Status Report.

Oral Testimony

Date	Title	First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Additional Authors

Note: MassDOT did not receive comments via oral testimony on the 2022 Status Report.

Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

State Implementation Plan – Transit Commitments
2022 Status Report
Agency Response to Public Comments

Submitted to the
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

February 7, 2023

For questions on this document, please contact:
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Office of Transportation Planning
10 Park Plaza, Room 4150
Boston, Massachusetts 02116 planning@dot.state.ma.us

INTRODUCTION

This document summarizes and responds to public comments received by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) on the *State Implementation Plan-Transit Commitments 2022 Status Report* (the Status Report) submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on July 19, 2022 in order to fulfill the requirements of 310 CMR 7.36, *Transit System Improvements.* The Status Report detailed the status of one public transit project – listed below – required of MassDOT under 310 CMR 7.36. The project is:

- Green Line Extension to Somerville and Medford. Note: The Green Line Extension project was completed with the opening of the Medford Branch on December 12, 2022.

MassDOT accepted public comments on the Status Report through October 11, 2022, following a public meeting (held on September 29, 2022) at which MassDOT staff presented an overview of the contents of the Status Report, and provided an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and provided feedback and comments. MassDOT did not receive any comments at the public meeting. No written comments were received during the public comment period following the public meeting.

Each year, MassDOT receives comments and questions in response to the Status Report that are similar to comments and questions received in past years. When that happens, MassDOT will often refer the commenter back to an earlier response or, if the issue has changed in a meaningful way, will clarify and update earlier responses as appropriate. MassDOT staff recognize that major decisions relating to the implementation of SIP projects do not, and likely cannot, satisfy all project advocates, and that decisions can and will continue to generate public controversy into the future, even when MassDOT considers an issue to be resolved. MassDOT will continue to respond to questions and concerns as they come up.

Throughout this document, the SIP regulation (310 CMR 7.36) is referenced. Additional information and detail on the regulation (310 CMR 7.36) can be viewed at:

http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/SIP

State Implementation Plan Public Meeting
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and
the Massachusetts Department of Transportation
September 29, 2022 – 10:00 AM
September 29, 2022 – 5:00 PM
These meetings were held virtually.

Attendees at Sessions:

Sharon Weber, Deputy Director, Air & Climate Programs Division, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)
Bob Frey, Director of Project-Oriented Planning, Office of Transportation Planning, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)

Introduction

Moderator Sharon Weber opened the meeting on MassDOT's 2022 Status Report on the State Implementation Plan (SIP) and provided background on the overall regulatory context of the SIP and the public process requirements.

MassDOT's Status Report for 2022 on the SIP was submitted to MassDEP on July 19, 2022, pursuant to the public process requirements of subsection (7) of 310 CMR 7.36, the *Transit System Improvements* regulation. Revisions to this regulation were effective December 2006. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved the revised regulation as a revision to the Massachusetts SIP in July 2008.

Under subsection (7) of 310 CMR 7.36, MassDOT is required to submit a Status Report annually on all uncompleted SIP requirements and submit that report to MassDEP. MassDEP is then required to hold a public meeting and take public comments. Within 120 days of this meeting, MassDOT is required to summarize and respond to all comments. Within 60 days of MassDOT's submission and response to comments, MassDEP is required to determine whether the public process requirements of the regulation have been met.

2022 Status Report[1]

Bob Frey, Director of Project-Oriented Planning, Office of Transportation Planning, MassDOT, provided a summary of the status of the one outstanding SIP commitment:

[1] Status up to date as of September 29, 2022, the date of the State Implementation Plan public meeting.

Green Line Extension Project

MassDOT awarded a contract to a Design Build team in December 2017. Revenue Service on Branch 1 (Union Square Branch) began on March 21, 2022. MassDOT expects to have revenue service begin on Branch 2 (Medford Branch) in December 2022. Since 2014, MassDOT has implemented interim offset measures. These measures are: additional off-peak service on existing routes serving the corridor (the Green Line, bus route 80, 88, 91, 94, and 96); purchasing 142 hybrid electric vehicles for the RIDE; and constructing additional Park and Rides at the Beverly and Salem intermodal facilities.

Oral Testimony – Afternoon Session

No citizens submitted testimony in the afternoon session.

Oral Testimony – Evening Session

No citizens submitted testimony in the evening session.